

DEC 14 1921 ✓

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AT THE STAGE DOOR ✓

Photoplay in six reels

✓ Directed by William Christy Cabanne

Author of the photoplay (under Sec. 62)
R.-C. Pictures Corporation of the U. S. ✓

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Synopsis

©CIL 17365 "At The Stage Door"

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by

R-C Pictures

"At The Stage Door"

Directed by William Christy Cabanne
Released by R-C Pictures.

"At The Stage Door"

Prologue	(Helen Mathews.	Frances Hess
	Mary Mathews.	Miriam Battista
	Mrs. Mathews.	Margaret Foster
	May Mathews.	"Billie" Dove
	Helen Mathews.	Elizabeth North
	George Andrews.	William Collier, Jr.
	Grace Mortimer.	Myrtle Maughan
	John Brooks.	Charles Craig
	Mrs. Reade.	Vivia Ogden
	Harold Reade.	Billy Quirk
	Philip Pierce.	Huntly Gordon
	Alice Vincent.	Katherine Spencer
	Betty.	Doris Eaton

"At The Stage Door"

In a little upstate town about one hundred miles from New York lived the Widow Matthews and her two daughters--Mary and Helen. As is often the case where there are only two children Mary, the older, becomes accustomed to giving up everything to the younger. And just as she gave up her beloved dolls to Helen in her childhood so Mary found herself giving up her "beaus" to the younger girl when they both grew into young womanhood. While Mary's sweet and wistful beauty won her many friends among the men, yet it was to Helen's alluring youthful charm that they invariably turned.

Mary did not mind so much until Arthur Bates, son of the leading minister and one of the most eligible young men in town, became indifferent after their engagement and fell in love with Helen. For a time the sense of hurt and injustice was almost more than the girl could bear. After the wedding of Arthur and Helen, through an old family friend in New York, Mary got a job as chorus girl.

While winning friends among the chorus girls and the men of the stage Mary yet held herself aloof and never joined their midnight parties after the show. In her stand she was staunchly supported by Grace Mortimer, another girl of the company. She was constantly being pursued by men who hung around the stage doors and nightly sat in the front row, but she turned a cold shoulder on all of them--except George Andrews, an elderly, kindly man who tried to be a real friend. Mary boarded at the home of Mrs. Reade who had a son, Harold, who had great ambitions to go on the stage.

Harold was a constant source of amusement to Mary with his serious mien and his hopeless inability to grasp the first principles of acting.

One evening, "the gang", determined to bring Mary down from her lofty perch. They planned to kidnap her after the show and take her with them on one of their wild revels. Just as they were in the midst of the kidnapping however, a young man drove up in a limousine and seeing the girl's predicament, jumped out and landed a blow on the jaw of the young man who was playing the role of chief abductor. A policeman also intervened and the kidnapping party was a failure while Mary stood looking into the kindly, smiling eyes of the strange young man.

Afterward she learned from Grace that her unknown knight was none other than Philip Pierce, member of a distinguished and wealthy family. Mary's heart skips a beat a few nights later when she sees Philip in the front row watching her admiringly. Soon a note was handed in at her dressing room. It was from Philip asking her if she will not allow him to know her and assuring her he is not like the average man who seeks to meet girls of the stage. It is the beginning of a very happy friendship for Mary and as time goes on the other girls begin to believe the two are genuinely in love.

Then came a day when a big charity bazaar was given at Philip's home and a number of the show girls sold candy and fancy gifts. Philip took pride in showing Mary about his beautiful home and he took pride in Mary's beauty and her smart appearance. But a cynical remark from one of his friends spoiled the day for him: "Take up old man! They're all alike", was the friend's remark when Philip hotly resented a remark about Mary.

"I wonder", mused Philip, and that night when he accompanied her home after the show the ugly words still rang in his ears. He seized Mary in his arms and echoed the same old words which had come from the lips of other blase, cynical men who considered girls of the stage their legitimate prey. Mary's shocked, hurt expression, her listless figure in his arms, told him too late what a mistake he had made. Without a word the girl turned and left him. Pleading, he followed her to the door of her room, begging her to believe he had not meant it. She shut and locked the door. Still he tried to reason with her, asked her to let him explain. Finally she opened the door and the picture of her white, distressed face made Philip feel like going on his knees.

"Mary I love you. I want you to be my wife", he said, "I will make you so happy that you will forget the terrible mistake I made a moment ago".

Realizing that Philip was sincere, Mary's face became radiant. It seemed that all her troubles were at an end. The next day she walked on clouds. But that night Philip did not show up at the theatre to take her home and the other girls exchanged significant looks. And while Mary was a prey to loneliness and doubt once more, a magnificent ball was going on in Philip's home, his fiancée, Alice Vincent having returned unexpectedly from abroad and Philip's mother having arranged a surprise party to announce the engagement.

The next afternoon the papers contained the announcement of Philip's engagement to Alice. Mary fainted when she read the news. That night, in a wild, reckless mood she consented for the first time to go on one of the nightly revels.

In the curtained booth of a garish cafe she tried to drink champagne. Then realizing what it was all leading to she flung the glass from her with the cry "O God, I can't be bad, and I won't". Rushing outside she ran into Philip Pierce who had been searching for her wildly.

Philip explained that the engagement party was sprung on him so suddenly that he had no way of getting out of it. However, he had candidly explained to Alice his love for Mary and she had understood and released him from the engagement.

So after years of renunciation, self sacrifice and loneliness Mary's dreams came true at last.

The End

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DEC 14 1921

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I herewith respectfully request the return of the following named motion picture films deposited by me for registration of copyright in the name of

R.-C. Pictures Corporation

AT THE STAGE DOOR (6 reels)
SILENT YEARS (6 reels)

Respectfully,

FULTON BRYLAWSKI

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picture films deposited and registered in the Copyright
Office as follows:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of Deposit</u>	<u>Registration</u>
AT THE STAGE DOOR	12/14/21	L: ©CL 17365
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☆ O. E. - F. G. P.
DEC 19 1921

Fulton Brylawski

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